

**Thomas Jefferson to Thomas Mann Randolph, Jr.,
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Collected and Edited by Paul Leicester Ford.**

TO THOMAS MANN RANDOLPH J. MSS.

Germantown, Nov. 2.1793

After having experienced on my journey the extremes of heat, cold, dust & rain, I arrived here yesterday. I found at Baltimore that the stages run no further North, and being from that circumstances thrown into the hands of the harpies who prey upon travellers, was pretty well fleeced to get here. I think from Fredericksburg here with a single servant cost me upwards of seventy dollars. Before this change in the weather the fever had very much abated in Philadelphia, & at this time it has almost entirely disappeared, in so much that the inhabitants are very many of them returning into the city. This is very necessary for our accommodation here, as this place is so full that I have been able to obtain a bed in a corner of the public room of a tavern only, and that as a great favor, the other alternative being to sleep on the floor in my cloak before the fire. In this state I am awaiting till some of the Philadelphians may take courage to go into the city, and make a vacancy here. Nothing will be done by the President as to the meeting of Congress. It is imagined that knowing he is here, they will rendezvous here, and after settling informally to what place they will remove, they will go into the fields of the city and pass a regular vote. The pure blacks have been found insusceptible of the infection. The mixed blood has taken it. What is more singular is that tho hundreds have been taken with the disease out of Philadelphia, have died of it after being well attended, yet not a single instance has occurred of anybody's *catching it out of Philadelphia*. The question for the session

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of Congress will lie between Philadelphia, New York & Lancaster.—Freneau's paper is discontinued. I fear it is the want of money. He promises to resume it before the meeting of Congress. I wish the subscribers in our neighborhood would send on their money. My love to my dear daughters & am with sincere esteem Dear Sir Yours affectionately.

P.S. Mr. Hollingsworth at the head of Elk thinks he can immediately send me on a good overseer in the place of Rogers. I authorized him to allow exactly the same as to Biddle. Consequently on his arrival I must get you to give him orders on Watson & Colo. Bell for the same necessaries which I had furnished to Biddle.